



Newsletter of the

# Hawai'i Bromeliad Society

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

SEPTEMBER 2014

## WBC 2014 — BROMELIADS IN PARADISE

*There is an A.A. for alcoholics but there is nothing that will cure an acute case of Bromelitis except more bromels.*

—Mulford Foster

Over 200 Bromelitis sufferers came together in Honolulu this September for the twenty-first Bromeliad Society International Conference, to learn and to teach and to express their aloha for these amazing plants. Heartfelt thanks are due to all the HBS members and friends who gave of their time and talents to make *WBC 2014* a memorable and successful event, and to our new friends from BSI affiliates around the world who shared their experiences with us.



ABOVE: (on the left) HBS President Susan Andrade and members Helen Friend and Karen Rohter (kneeling); (on the right) members Stan Schab and Terese Leber (kneeling), and conference volunteer Carol Holverson.



LEFT: close up of David Shiigi's *Vriesea* 'Sherlette's Pride.'

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[www.hawaiibromeliadsociety.org](http://www.hawaiibromeliadsociety.org)

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NEWSLETTER

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING

This Saturday, **September 27**,  
we meet at

**Lyon Arboretum at Noon.**

Our hospitality hosts are

**Nancy and Stan** (food)  
and **Karen** (drinks).

## REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 30, 2014

Lyon Arboretum

ATTENDING: Susan Andrade (presiding), Helen Friend, Karen Gollero, Nancy Hiraoka, Naty Hopewell (New Member!), John Ishihara, Tessie Labra, Terese Leber, Larry McGraw, Ed Nishimura, Gail Rabideau, Karen Rohter, Dolores Roldan, Jaime Roldan, Stan Schab, Lynette Wagner, Randy Wong, Val Wong. Guests: Bonnie Boutwell, BSI Vice-President and WBC 2014 Conference Chair; Amy Tani-guchi, Conference Volunteer (Thank You!).

CONVENED: 12:15 ADJOURNED: 2:45.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Tessie reported income of \$207, for a closing balance of \$4,134.77.

HOSPITALITY: Our hosts for September are Nancy and Stan (food), and Karen (drinks).

MEMBERSHIP: A current roster will be mailed or emailed to all HBS members.

CONFERENCE: Bonnie thanked the membership for having "stepped up to meet a huge responsibility" in preparing for WBC 2014. She noted how the local face we have put on the conference was valuable to BSI for the insight it provides into affiliate chapters, and she urged us to rely as needed on the experience of BSI members, many of whom have been to multiple conferences.

HBS Conference co-chair Lynette provided updates on tours, events, and other matters.

TOURS AND EVENTS: Bonnie explained that because this conference will not feature a plant show, there will be more tours and events. She is completing negotiations with the bus company about transportation. Because of limitations set by the company, the Thursday morning Home and Garden tour, open to all conference registrants, will focus on visiting Lyon Arboretum. Participants will have to transfer from the buses to minivans to get to the Arboretum, and Lynette and Bonnie are consulting with Lyon about what the Arboretum will provide—including perhaps minivans, since they are regularly used to ferry people to the Lyon plant sales; if not, we will hire vans. The Arboretum meeting room will be used as a hospitality and rest spot; we will need to have members on site and to provide water and snacks. Over seventy people have already signed up for the optional tour on Sunday to Hilo and environs, requiring at least two buses and coordinating arrivals on at least two early morning flights from Honolulu. The price has been set at \$75 for the Willows Restaurant dinner on Wednesday night, which will feature an open bar, a Hawaiian menu, leis, a slack key guitarist, and dancers (courtesy of Karen R). Pre-paid tour and event tickets will be distributed with registrant name tags; additional tickets for the optional tours, Willows dinner and conference banquet will be sold at the Registration/Hospitality table until cut off times set by Bonnie.

BANQUET: Members decided to buy 200 cookies from the Honolulu Cookie Company, at 45¢ each, to put inside the wooden pineapple displays that will serve as table favors. Larry furnished two trays of beautiful *Tillandsia* on loan to serve as banquet table centerpieces, to be placed on mirrors provided by Lynette.

SECURITY: John laid out a chart of shifts for security duties, and circulated a volunteer sign-up sheet.

AUCTION: Helen will take the lead on accepting auction donations, and is busy writing descriptions of all the items for auction, and preparing the forms needed for the both the live and silent auctions. She will provide a frame to hang the "pineapple" quilt behind the Hospitality Table, as a teaser to inform registrants about the auction.

ALOHA BASKETS: Bonnie and Lynette congratulated Karen, Gail, and Helen on the "fabulous" baskets. Karen noted that they were in the finishing stages of preparing baskets featuring local wine, beer, and food.

DISPLAY: Terese discussed plans for the HBS display, which will be set up on Wednesday afternoon, the opening day of the conference. She asked that members deliver plants to her by Monday, September 8, or call to arrange for pick up; you will get your plants back. Ed provided some beautiful *Billbergia*, and Randy will look for *Ananas* from Lyon. In addition to HBS, David Fell, David Shiigi, and the Cactus and Succulent Society will create displays. HBS members who will be sellers at the plant sale should contact Marie for the vendor numbers to go on their two-part sales tickets.

JUDGES' SCHOOL: Bonnie reminded members that plants are needed for the judge's school. They don't need to be perfect specimens, but two blooming, two non-blooming, and two display or clumped plants are needed. Plants used for the school on Tuesday could then be put in the display on Wednesday.

AWARDS: Awards will be offered in six categories: *Neoregelia*, *Aechmea*, *Guzmania*, *Vriesea*, Terrestrials (such as *Tillandsia*), and all other genera. There will also be a horticultural display award judged by the School graduates.





# SCENES FROM WBC 2014



In an article in the July/August 1957 *Bromeliad Society Bulletin*, “Mexico, Land of Tillandsias,” Mulford Foster described how he got started on the path to bromeliad fame (if not fortune). His reaction to the plants he saw may ring true to our own experiences with bromeliads:

*In 1935, I went to Mexico the hard way . . . in an old Chevrolet, dragging a trailer behind. . . . My mission was plants, of course, orchids and cacti being firsts at that time. . . . Gradually the bromeliads began to make a really big impression: alas, I have been an incurable addict ever since. . . . Here, for the first time, I saw the trees literally covered with bromeliads and other epiphytic flora. Never shall I forget my first impressions of these exotic bromeliads. . . . I was then unaware of their names. I just knew they were extraordinary, unique plant experiences which had never come my way before.*

WBC 2014 featured talks not only by, among others, Andy Siekinnen, who still leads plant safaris to Mexico, and Birdrock Tropical’s Pam Koide-Hyatt, who has discovered new *Tillandsia* varieties there, but by Hawai’i’s own renowned growers and plant experts.

ABOVE: Lynette Wageman introducing Hawai’i growers David Shiigi, Sharon Petersen, Peter DeMello, Lisa Vinzant, and David Fell

RIGHT: a section of DeMello’s Tillandsia display

BELOW: part of the HBS “Year of the Horse” display



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4







**Lyon in the Sun**

**Sunday, October 19**  
 1:30 – 4:30pm  
 at the Lyon Arboretum

Park at Manoa Valley District Park  
 Admission: \$20 (age 21+) \$10 (20 and younger)  
 Children 5 and younger are FREE

**Music from George Kuo & Friends**

Bring your own water bottle to fill up to help make our event eco-friendly!

Children's Activities • Tours  
 Cultural Demonstrations  
 Hula Performances • Food Vendors  
 Shave Ice • Beer & Wine Tastings

Lauhala weaving with Caroline Alfonso  
 Kapa making with Moana Eisele  
 Flower arrangement demo by Dottie Nitta  
 Wristlet making demo by Bill Char

Sponsored by

FRIENDS OF LYON ARBORETUM

ALOH BEER

Tickets available at the door or by contacting the Friends of Lyon Arboretum at 988-0464. Visit friendsoflyon.org for more information.



ABOVE LEFT: In the run-up to the conference, we took the time to celebrate our fearless leader's birthday (thank you, Marie, for the cake); TOP: Helen organizing the auction and silent auction offerings; MIDDLE: thanks to Ed for the beautiful silent auction bowls; BELOW: Karen finally getting a rest in the midst of her 30! beautiful baskets.